

*East of Scotland Strut of the Light Aircraft Association
February 2024 Newsletter*

Airplane-Pictures.net



Photo Wallace Shackleton

Chairman's bit

Hi All,

The weather has been pretty unspeakable. On the night of the big gale we watched on Plane Finder as plane after plane gave up on landings at Edinburgh.

The wind speed on the runway was 68 kts. They all had two goes but it looked really hairy. From our house we could hear the engines roar and saw them climb away each time. Most of them finally opted for landing in Germany which was the nearest runway with less than 45 kts.

I recently attended the Central Scotland LAIT (Local Area Infringement Team) meeting in the tower at Edinburgh. There was an analysis of each infringement of which there were 12 in the last three months. Nothing dangerous

or outrageous but the good news is that the CAA was well represented and open to dialogue on any topic.

I will go through that at our next meeting but one point worth a mention here is that from now on until further notice VFR flights requiring a zone transit should phone in advance. This is because the strips are finally going and the data for them is now required to be entered into the new computer system. At busy times this is understandably too much workload for a controller responding to a transit request as we fly towards them. I am sure we will all comply.

Here's hoping for a flyable Spring. Fly safe. Justin

Cover photo

Thanks to Wallace Shackleton for this fine photo of Justin Kennedy in his Europa at Kingsmuir a few years ago.



From the LAA

Rally update (first mentioned in the last Newsletter). 'I am very pleased to announce that the 2024 LAA Rally will be held at Leicester Airport over the weekend of 30th August to 1st September 2024.'

Simon Tilling, Chief Executive Officer

Our AGM

That time of year is in the offing again, make sure you turn up for the March meeting.

The next meeting is on...

**Monday 5th February
at the Harrow Hotel
Eskbank Road, Dalkeith
at 8.00pm**

**Tim Rayner will give a
talk and show a film
about Bf 109G
'Black Six'**



About the Light Aircraft Association:
<https://www.lightaircraftassociation.co.uk>

With a history extending over 70 years, the UK Light Aircraft Association promotes safe and economical operation of sports and recreational aircraft. Representing the aviation interests of around 8,000 recreational pilots, amateur-builders and enthusiast members, the LAA oversees the operation of more than 2,500 light aircraft and the build of another 1,700, whilst providing sector-leading consultation and advocacy in aviation-related regulatory matters both in UK and Europe.

**This newsletter can also be viewed on
the Strut website:
eos-strut.org**

Monday's talk

At Monday's meeting at the Harrow Tim Rayner is going to show a film about bringing back to flying condition Bf 109G 'Black Six', and the part its lead restorer Russ Sneddon played. 'Interesting story with a good outcome' says Tim.

Image below is via Wikimedia Commons and the link below gives the acknowledgement plus a useful potted history of the aircraft.

[https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Messerschmitt_Bf109G-6_Trop_%E2%80%98Black_Six%E2%80%99_\(G-USTV\)_%2847024103962%29.jpg](https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Messerschmitt_Bf109G-6_Trop_%E2%80%98Black_Six%E2%80%99_(G-USTV)_%2847024103962%29.jpg)



More from the LAA

Advertising Sales Manager for the LAA

The Light Aircraft Association supports its members build, maintain, fly and enjoy light aircraft. We have over 7000 members and look after over 3000 aircraft across the UK.

We are looking for someone to take control of advertising sales for our monthly magazine, Light Aviation.

What you will do:

- Establish and maintain a great relationship with current and new clients who advertise in our magazine.
- Work with these clients to ensure they get the best return on their advertising spend in our magazine
- Work with the magazine editor to ensure all advertising space is filled each month
- Be responsible for meeting our advertising sales revenue targets
- Provide input about advertising at the events we run throughout the year

What we offer:

- Initially this will be a part time role, 2 days per week (There may be an opportunity to increase hours)
- The chance to make a difference – We are a small team that are all passionate about aviation and everyone counts!
- Hybrid working
- Paid holidays
- Salary negotiable

If interested, please email your C.V. to penny.sharpe@laa.uk.com

Stormy weather

There are lots of videos going round of airliners making difficult landings in recent storms, but look at this little Cirrus coming into Birmingham last week.

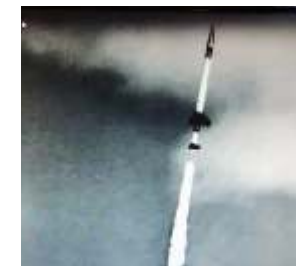
<https://www.quizaero.co.uk/post/braving-the-winds-of-storm-isha-a-cirrus-sr20-s-gritty-landing-at-birmingham>



The first British Space Race

Jago Hazzard puts out videos, originally centering on London Underground curiosities but now wandering into other areas. Here he goes to the Isle of Wight to investigate the beginnings of rocketry in Britain.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=jago+hazzard+secret+rocket+base&mid=058593568485E314C2E2058593568485E314C2E2&FORM=VIRE>



A new Mosquito

Thanks to John Mounce for this image of the latest new build Mosquito to roll out of the AvSpecs workshop into the New Zealand sunshine. Photo was taken by Wayne Grant who lives nearby. John says this one is going to the States but in April they will begin work on their fifth Mosquito and that will be headed for the UK.

I half jokingly asked if they might build a Hornet, the single seater hot rod version, and the reply was; 'There are indeed plans afoot down here to build a Hornet. There is supposedly a collection of bits, a full set of drawings etc. It is low key at the moment and undoubtedly will need a sponsor with deep pockets. Not sure how correct it is but figures c10-12million US dollars are talked about.'



From Keith

Keith Griggs saw this unfolding on Flight Radar 24 as an Airbus A350 heading for Vancouver had to return to Heathrow. The emergency wasn't specified but 'This shot (rhs) shows descending from 40000 ft to 13000 ft holding over Solway Firth likely dumping fuel before returning to Heathrow, so likely a problem with pressure seeing the reduction in altitude to 13000ft.'

The image below shows the plane taking off (yellow track) and returning to London two hours later (red track).



Also from Keith comes this list of days when East Fortune East will be closed because of events on the airfield, (which also shows why PPR is essential).

10th March,

6th and 7th, 20th and 21st April

11th and 12th May

2nd 3rd, 8th 9th, 22nd 23rd, 29th June

13th and 14th July

17th and 18th August

14th and 15th September.

Wonders of the deep

I heard about the research ship the Schmidt Deep Sea Explorer on the radio one morning. Apparently 95% of the ocean floor has still to be observed and this ship sends down submersibles, sometimes miles deep, to see what is happening there. In the programme the bonus was that they broadcast these surveys in real time and we can all watch them.

I haven't found that on their website yet but I have seen edited film taken within an hour or so and you might want to see what you can find in their collection of videos. Apart from familiar living things adapted for great depths and no light there are some very weird creatures down there.

I envy our very own Steven Borthwick, who does something similar, for the amazing things he must see when operating his ROV. <https://schmidtocan.org/gallery/>



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